

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 IO-13 ACDA-12 /100 W
-----072443 211711Z /47

R 211202Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1028
INFO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
USINT BAGHDAD POUCH
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM
AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: IZ, ET, KU
SUBJECT: ERITREA: IRAQI AND KUWAITI VIEWS

1. WE NOTE A MAY 20 REUTERS REPORT FROM BEIRUT (CITING PARIS PAPER AL-NAHAR) TO THE EFFECT THAT IRAQ IS AIDING THE ERITREANS AND HAS ADVISED THE SOVIETS AND CUBANS AGAINST MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN ERITREA. PRESS REPORTS IN KUWAIT, DURING THE MAY 16-19 VISIT HERE OF IRAQI FON MIN HAMADI AND OTHER OFFICIALS, LEND SOME CREDENCE TO THE REUTERS REPORT. ON MAY 17, THE DAY THAT HAMADI AND KUWAITI FON MIN SABAH AL-AHMAD HELD THEIR FIRST TALKS, THE LATTER RESTATED FOR NEWSMEN STRONG KUWAITI SUPPORT FOR ERITREA, NOTED THAT KUWAITI MATERIAL AID WOULD CONTINUE, AND CALLED ON ALL ARAB COUNTRIES TO AID THE ERITREANS. HE REPORTEDLY LAMENTED THE FACT THAT "ARAB DISUNITY" HAD INVITED THE "FEROCIOUS" ETHIOPIAN ATTACK.

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2. THE IRAQIS, WHILE IN KUWAIT, MADE NO PUBLIC REFERENCE TO ERITREA, BUT THE KUWAITI MFA UNDER SECRETARY RASHID AL-RASHID REPORTEDLY COMMENTED TO THE PRESS MAY 17 THAT THE TWO FON MINS DISCUSSED RED SEA SECURITY AND THE HORN OF AFRICA. TWO PRESS REPORTS QUOTE RASHID AS SAYING THAT THE IRAQIS AGREED WITH KUWAITI VIEWS OF SUCH ISSUES AND ONE REPORT ASSERTED THAT "THEIR POINTS OF

VIEW WERE IN AGREEMENT ON THE NECESSITY FOR STABILITY OF
THE AFRICAN HORN."

3. I HAVE REQUESTED AN APPOINTMENT WITH RASHID AND WILL
SOUND HIM OUT ON THE CURRENT IRAQI POSITION ON
ERITREA.
SUTHERLAND

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NNN

Message Attributes

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